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A NARRATIVE OF THE SIEGE AND SURRENDER OF Maestricht, TO THE MOST CHRISTIAN KING.

On the 30th *of* June.

In the SAVOY:
Printed by *Tho. Newcomb.* 1673.

A Narrative of the Siege and Surrender of Maestricht, *to the most Christian King.*

HIs Majesty having resolved to begin his Campagne with the Siege of *Maestricht*, thought it necessary however to conceal his Intentions, as far as could be from the Enemy, and leave them onely uncertain Conjectures where he would first Attack them, until his arrival before *Maestricht* had unfolded the Mystery. This was the reason of his Majesties assembling his Troops on the *Lys*; his coming with his Army to the Walls of *Ghent*, and his continuing there some time; his sending out a Body of Men to pass the *Vaert*, between that place and *Bruges*, under the Command of the Duke *de Feuillade*, and afterwards several Squadrons of Horse under the Command of Monsieur; his sending the Marquess *de Rochefort* with 6000 Horse towards *Vilvoerden*; and lastly, of his Encamping before *Brussels*, that so he might disguise his design of besieging *Maestricht*, and give equal jealousie to the Dutch and their Allies; who being thus concerned for themselves, could not send the Forces, they would otherwise have done, into *Maestricht* to reinforce that Garrison.

His Majesty having thus passed through *Flanders*, the Third of this instant *June*, *S. N.* Commanded the Count *de Lorge*, one of his Lieutenant Generals, with 6000 Horse and Dragoons to go and Invest *Maestricht*. He parted with this Body of Men about Midnight, taking his way through *Tilemont*, S. *Truyen*, and *Tongres*, and arrived the Fifth, in the Evening, before *Maestricht*, where he found the Count *de Montal*, Governor of *Charleroy* and *Tongres* with 1500 Horse drawn out of this latter place and *Maseyck*.

At their first arrival they were saluted from the Town with several Shot, notwithstanding which, they gave every where the necessary orders; and the next day, about Six a Clock in the Morning, began to Invest the place on this side of the *Meuse*.

The Seventh arrived the Sieur *du Piloy* with 3500 Horse of Monsieur *Turennes* Army, and the next day the Sieur *de Reveillon* Brigadier, with several Regiments of Foot from the same Army. The same day the Sieur *de la Talée* arrived likewise with other Troops, who all together finished the Investure of the place, on the other side, called *Wyck*, and a Bridge of Boats was made over the River for the Communication of the several Quarters. In the mean time, the Count *de Montal* having caused Seven thousand Bores to come out of the Neighborhood of *Liege*, began to work on the Lines of Circonvallation and Contravallation: This let the Governor see we were in earnest, who thereupon omitted no endeavors for the defence of the place, being very glad that he had some days before received into the Town 1000 Spanish Foot and 500 Horse: Accordingly he caused all the Inhabitants, as well as Soldiers, to work for the raising of Three Batteries on Three *Cavaliers*, from whence they could see all our Quarters and incommode them very much; and besides, caused frequent Sallies to be made through by-ways, and undiscernable by us, by reason of the Redoubts which were far advanced, and the very high Corn that was round the place.

The first Sally, they made out of the *Tongres Gate* with 150 Horse, who with great courage fell upon one of our Out-Guards, which were but 20 of the Kings Muskettiers commanded by the Sieur *de Paygnace*, the Enemy making slight account of this small number, whom they thought to destroy with ease, put not themselves into that posture they would perhaps otherwise have done, and so were deceived by the great courage of our Men, who made so brave a resistance, that they killed 20 of the Assailants, and beat the rest as far as their Counterscarp, notwithstanding they fired violently with their small Shot from thence. The Sieur *de Paygnace* was killed with a Cannon Bullet, with one Muskettier more, and two wounded.

The Ninth the Enemy made an other Salley by the favour of their Redoubts, and the high Corn, they killed two of our Men, and forced our Out-Guard to retire; but the Count *d' Auvergne* having notice thereof, went immediately out with

a Party, and forced the Enemy back; Their intention was to have taken the Standards, which stood along the Line, and three of their Officers had already Seized Two Standards of the Kin s Regiment, though they held them not long, for one of these Officers was killed with a Musket Bullet, and the other two taken Prisoners.

During these first days of the Siege, there were several other Skirmishes, in which the Enemy had no farther Advantage; They lost the Marquis *de Vervic*, Nephew to the Count of *Brouay*, who was very much wounded, and taken Prisoner.

The Tenth the King who parted at Midnight from *St. Truyen*, seven great Leagues from *Maestricht*, arrived in the Camp about noon, accompanyed by Monsieur, with his *Gens d Armes*, and part of the Infantry, notwithstanding the difficulty of the Ways, and the slow march of the Foot; his Majesty was no sooner arrived, but went to visit the several Posts, to observe the Situation of the Place, and its Fortifications, and to assign the Troops that came with him, their several stations. On this occasion there happened a new Skirmish, in which the Kings Dragoons took one Prisoner, whom his Majesty immediately gave his Liberty again, with this Commission, that he should tell the Besieged, That unless they Surrendred suddainly, they could not expect any Quarter.

The following night his Majesty was at the By-watch, as he hath been ever since; The next Morning he caused the Bridge of Communication to be finished, and the rest of the Infantry being come up, he assigned them their several Quarters round the place. That day Monsieur went and took his Quarter on the side of *Wyck*, with 6000 Horse, and 9000 Foot; The King took his at a Village called *Oilre*, which is about half Cannon shot from the place, and secured in some measure from the Enemies Cannon, by a small Hill that covers it.

The Twelfth was imployed in working at the Lines of Circonvallation and Contravallation: That night his Majesty caused a Redoubt of the Enemies, which was far advanced, and incommoded us very much, to be Attacked, which after a short dispute was taken, most of them that defended it, which were 30 in all, having been killed or taken Prisoners.

The 13 happened a small Skirmish between 50 of the Enemy, and some of our Guards, who at first, as being much the weaker, were forced to give way, but being assisted by a Party sent to them from the Camp, they beat the Enemy to the foot of their

Counterſcarp. That night his Majeſty cauſed the Infantry to march nearer to the Place, being ſecured by the Cavalry, and Monſieur did the like on his ſide, ſo that the Beſieged could not ſtir out of their Counterſcarp, without coming under our Shot.

The Fourteenth we ſeized on a cloſe way, by which the Enemy ſecurely made all their Salleys; 2000 Horſe were Poſted there, and a Retrenchment made to ſecure them againſt the Enemy. This day the Lines, as well on this as the other ſide the *Meuſe*, were finiſhed, although that of Contrevallation is about four Miles about, and that both are 12 Foot broad, and ſix foot deep.

The Fifteenth great Proviſion was made of Faggots, and other Neceſſaries for the Siege, the King in the mean time with his accuſtomed Vigilance, obſerving what Places were fitteſt to be Attacked, and taking care that all things were in the poſture they ought to be, before he opened the Trenches.

The Sixteenth his Majeſty reſolved that the Trenches ſhould be opened the next Morning, not far from the *Tongres* Gate; and in the mean time our Men began to work, for the raiſing of two Batteries on this ſide the *Serre*, and a third on the other ſide, on the Mount *St. Peter*, in Monſieur *Montals* Quarter, on the ſide of *Lietembergh*, the Guns being ſo ordered, that they could not onely diſmount thoſe of the Enemy, but alſo incommode them very much in their Out-works, which the Enemy were Fortifying all they could, the Women as well as the Men being employed at the Work; and in the mean time fired more furiouſly then they had done before.

The Seventeenth about Nine at Night, the Trenches were opened in the places his Majeſty had appointed, which are on the ſide of his Quarter, by two Bataillons of French Guards, and one of Swiſſes, Commanded by the Duke *de la Feuillade*, Lieutenant General, on the Right, and by a Bataillon of *Picardy*, and two of the Royal Regiment, Commanded by the Marquis *de Vaubran* on the Left, being in all 4800 Men, and aſſiſted by eight Squadrons drawn out of the Kings Guards, Genſdarmes and Light Horſe, under the Command of the Chevalier *de Hauteville*; The Enemy all this while fired very briskly upon us, but killed onely three or four of our Souldiers, and wounded a Lieutenant of the Royal Regiment; the night was very favourable to us, and our Men continued their Works till Morning, without any oppoſition, with ſo much vigor, that by break of day, thoſe under the Command of the Duke

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de Feuillade, had advanced 1000 Paces, counting the turnings; and thoſe under the Command of Monſieur *Vaubrun* 200, and beſides made a Line of Communication between the two Trenches, which were at firſt diſtant from each other, above 800 Paces, and now there remained onely 1500 Paces to the Counterſcarp; The Enemy who had been very ſilent all night, about three a clock in the Morning began to fire very warmely with their ſmall ſhot upon our Musketeers, though without any great effect, there having not been above five or ſix killed, and ſome few wounded, and amongſt others the Marquis *de Termes*, *Ayde Camp*, and the Sieur *de Villeron*, likewiſe *Ayde de Camp*, received light hurts; Here I cannot omit to tell you, that the day before, in the taking of the Redoubt, the Sieur *de Charlieu*, Captain of the Kings Regiment, was ſhot in the Shoulder.

The Eighteenth by break of day, our three Batteries began to play upon the Town, one having 12 Pieces of Cannon Mounted on it, the ſecond 8, and the third 6, each of them carrying Bullets of 24 pound weight; This day 3800 ſhot were made into the Town, not without doing conſiderable execution; In the Morning we Battered down two of the three Cavaliers, which they had raiſed upon their Rampart, and by four in the afternoon we had likewiſe Battered down the other; However the Enemy with much difficulty Mounted two of their Guns again, with which they fired into Monſieur *Montal's* Quarter, though without any effect, whilſt he was acting with all imaginable vigor: About 11 a Clock this day, Monſieur *Montal* ſent out a Party of 50 Men, of the Regiment of *Bandevile*, to ſeize on a Houſe, which ſtood in his Quarter, which was Guarded by 18 Souldiers, Commanded by a Lieutenant and a Sergeant, who had orders from the Governor not to yield, he having promiſed to ſend them on all occaſions, ſuch Succors, as the importance of that Poſt would require; Our Men ſoon made themſelves Maſters of the Place, taking the Lieutenant and his Souldiers Priſoners, with the loſs on our ſide of three Men killed, beſides five or ſix, with two Sergeants wounded, as was likewiſe the Sieur *de Courrelle*, Major of the Regiment of *Bandeville*.

The Eighteenth at Night, the Marquis *de Rochefort*, Lieutenant General, relieved the Duke *de la Feuillade*, with a Battaillon of *Navarre*, another of the Crown, formerly called *Artois*, and a third of the Kings; The Chevalier *de Lorrain*, Mareſhal *de Camp*, Relieved the Marquis *de Vaubrun*, with a

Battaillon of *Piedmont*, and two of the Regiments of *Dauphin*, being Guarded as the day before, by eight Squadrons of Cavalry, under the Command of the Marquis *de Chazeron*, Brigadier of the *Genſdarmes*; That Night the Trenches were advanced 600 Paces, and within 900 of the Counterſcarp, the Enemy all this while firing very violently, to repair their ſilence the night paſt, no withſtanding we had onely two Men killed, and 14 or 15 wounded, beſides the Sieur *Permangle*, Mareſhal of the Kings Guards of Light-Horſe, and the Sieur *de la Boſſiere*, Captain in the Kings Regiment, were both wounded with a Shot from a Musket. This Night the King, who ſtill like the meaneſt Soldier, expoſes himſelf to the greateſt danger, came to viſit the Trenches, accompanied by Monſieur, who had been likewiſe in the Trenches the Night before.

The Nineteenth our Batteries began to Fire again very furiouſly upon the Town, and with that ſucceſs, that we again diſmounted all the Enemies Cannon, and battered down their works. In the Evening, the Count *de Lorge*, Lieutenant General, relieved the Marqueſs *de Rocheſort*, with a Battaillon of the *Marine*, and two of *Anjou*, and the Chevalier *de Fourilles*, Mareſchal *de Camp*, relieved the Chevalier *de Lorraine*, with three of the Kings Regiment; the Trenches were advanced very near to the Counterſcarp, and we began to dig, to diſcover the Enemies Mines; notwithſtanding, there fell a great deal of Rain, and the conſtant Fire of the Enemy. A Lieutenant in the Regiment of *Anjou* was killed, with two Sergeants of the Kings Regiment, and the Major of the Regiment of the *Marine* was dangerouſly wounded, beſides 17 or 18 Soldiers which were killed and wounded. The King according to his cuſtom viſited the Trenches, being accompanied by Monſieur, who to that purpoſe, was come from his own quarter on the ſide of *Wycke*: And whilſt every one, with a great deal of bravery, endeavored to put himſelf in the greateſt danger, the King commanded, that no Voluntiers ſhould go into the Trenches without order.

The Twentieth the Duke of *Monmouth*, being the youngeſt Lieutenant General, relieved the Count *de Lorge* with two Battaillons of the Royal Regiment, and one of Swiſſes, and the Count *de Montal* Mareſchal *de Camp*, relieved the Chevalier *de Lorraine*, with a Battaillon of the Regiment of *Bandeville*, and two of *Alſace*. This Night the Trenches were advanced to within thirty paces of the Counterſcarp, the Enemy

Enemy all the while Firing very thick from their Paliſadoes, though without doing us any conſiderable hurt.

The One and twentieth the Duke *de la Feuillade*, and the Marqueſs *de Vanbrun*, mounted the Trenches the ſecond time. The Two and twentieth, the Marqueſs *de Rochefort*, and the Chevalier *de Lorraine*; the Three and twentieth the Count *de Lorge*, and the Chevalier *de Fourilles*, during which three days, they carried their Trenches to the Foot of the Counterſcarp, the Enemy making all the oppoſition they could: We loſt ſome Men, but nothing near ſo many, as might have been expected, conſidering the ſmartneſs of the Service. The Twenty fourth it was the Duke of *Monmouths*, and the Count *de Montals* turn to Mount the Trenches, which being now advanced as far as could be, their next work was to lodge themſelves upon the Counterſcarp. In order to which, four ſeveral Attacks were made, two Falſe and two Real; the Count *de Lorge*, *le Chevalier de Lorraine*, and Monſieur *Vanbrun* commanded the Falſe Attack on the ſide of *Wyck*, which they did with that Succeſs, that they beat the Enemy out of their Outworks, being 400 Men; the Officer that commanded them was killed with a great many others, and about 30 of them taken priſoners; and had they been prepared to go farther, they would certainly have taken *Wyck*; in this Action they had about 100 Men killed and wounded. At the ſame time the Duke of *Monmouth*, and the Count *de Montal*, (for all the Attacks were made together upon Firing of Five Pieces of Cannon from the Main Battery) fell likewiſe on, Monſieur *Montals* Attack being on the Left of the Duke of *Monmouth*, who had at this time under his command the Kings Regiment commanded by Monſieur *Monbron*, and the Grand Muskettiers commanded by Monſieu *d'Artagnan*. The Attacks were made with extraordinary courage and reſolution, and after a briſk diſpute, our men gained the Counterſcarp, and from thence advanced farther, and Attacked the outward Half-Moon which was before the *Bruſſels Gate*, which they likewiſe carried, though the Enemy all this while was not idle, but gave us good ſtore of ſmall Shot, and beſides blew up three Fourneaux, though without any great effect. In the mean time the Duke of *Monmouth* ſtood ready, in caſe our men ſhou'd give ground to Sally himſelf in perſon to their relief, which our Succeſs prevented him in; for our men fell immediately to lodge themſelves in their new Poſts; ſeveral priſoners were brought away to the number of Fourſcore, amongſt which, a Spaniſh Lieutenant Colonel.

The loſs on our ſide was not inconſiderable, there having been in this Action above 400 men killed and wounded, and many of them Officers and Perſons of note, and amongſt others Sir *Henry Jones*, who that Night waited upon his Grace as a Voluntier, and was unfortunately ſhot dead in the Trenches with a Bullet through the Throat, at the firſt great diſcharge of the Enemy, as the Sally was made. Our men ſtill continued their Works to make a Communication between the Trenches and the Half-Moon, whilſt the Enemy retrenched themſelves on the other end of it. In working we diſcovered a Mine, in which was Six Barrels of Powder, ready to be fired: By Eleven of the Clock the Line of Communication was finiſhed, when on a ſudden a Mine ſprang on the Right-hand, by which, above 50 men were killed, with a Captain, and an Enſign, which was immediately followed by a Sally from the Town, who fell upon our men with a number ſo far exceeding ours, that they were forced to give ground; whereupon the Duke immediately ſent away a party of the Grand Muſkettiers to go and make good that Poſt; but the Enemy were already in poſſeſſion, and not eaſie to be diſlodged, when his Grace with an undanted courage, and a reſolution befitting the occaſion, reſolved to go himſelf in Perſon to endeavor the recovery of theſe Poſts, being onely attended by about a dozen Engliſh Voluntiers, Perſons of Quality; with this Company, his Grace too impatient to paſs by the ordinary way of the Sally Port, leaped over the Works, and through a ſtorm of Shot that fell on all ſides, marched along the Paliſadoes, and paſſed through a Sally-Port of the Enemies to come to the Half-Moon, which he ſaw the Soldiers forſaking, not being longer able to maintain it, till he with his preſence encouraged them to return, which they did with new vigor, and being followed by what force they could rally up in the Trenches; the Enemy was the ſecond time beaten off, though not without the loſs of ſeveral Officers and Soldiers which were wounded and ſlain in greater numbers, then at the Night Attack. Monſieur *d'Artagnan*, Captain of the Grand Muſkettiers, was killed, as he ſtood near his Grace, with a Shot through his Reins, and Captain *O Brien* was Shot in the Leg. The Kings Muſkettiers, who behaved themſelves with extraordinary gallantry (as indeed all in general did) were moſt killed and wounded: And now came 400 Men from the Camp to reinforce us, though we had not any farther occaſion for them; for the Duke continued abſolute Maſter of his Conqueſt, and left the quiet poſſeſſion

poſſeſſion of it to the Duke *de la Feuillade*, who came to relieve him at the uſual hour. The King was at the end of the Trenches at his Graces coming out, who received him with expreſſions of joy for his ſafe return, and all manner of ſatisfaction in his Conduct. In theſe Attacks 700 Men, together with Officers were killed and wounded.

The other Attack commanded by Monſieur *Montal*, had not the like ſucceſs, though it was managed with all the courage and gallantry imaginable, his Men having gained the Half-Moon, were again beaten off with the loſs of 500 killed and wounded.

The Twenty fifth at Night, and the next day, was employed in Fortifying our ſelves in our new Poſts, and preparing for a new Attack, which was reſolved to be made the Tueſday following, and accordingly the Count *de Lorge*, and *le Chevalier de Fourilles*, whoſe day it was, had Orders to make two ſeveral Attacks, our Cannon having as well this day as the day before, fired very furiouſly upon the Enemy, and very much Battered their Fortifications, where the Attacks were intended to be made, though in the mean time the Governor omitted no endeavors to repair them again, and to put all things into the beſt poſture of defence he could; The Count *de Lorge* had Orders to Attack a Horn-work, which was on the left hand of the Half-Moon, taken the 24 and 25 inſtant, and the Chevalier *de Fourielles*, to attempt a Green Half-Moon on the Right hand of the *Bruſſels* Gate, near that part which is ſet under Water. About eleven of the Clock at Night, the Sign being given by two pieces of Cannon, a Mine of ours which was fixed under the Horn-work, was Sprung, and immediately thereupon, our Men made the Attack; The Enemy made a ſtout reſiſtance, firing very furiouſly upon us from all parts, caſting abundance of Granadoes amongſt us, and beſides Springing ſeven Mines, one after another; notwithſtanding which, we beat the Enemy, and gained the Poſt, having killed many of them, and taken ſeveral Priſoners, amongſt which was, the Major of the *Italian* Regiment, and ſeveral Miners, who diſcovered ſeveral other Mines, and which were by that means prevented from Springing; In the mean time *le Chevalier de Foureille*, advanced as ſucceſſully on the other ſide, who after a hot diſpute, made himſelf Maſter of the Green Half-Moon, and thence advanced farther, and gained all their Out-Works; Some of the Priſoners ſaid, that the Governor himſelf Commanded in the Out-Works, the better to encourage his Men, and that he ran great danger of being taken Priſoner; This done, our Work was to ſecure our ſelves in our new Acquiſition, which had coſt us this day, about 400 Men.

Wedneſday Night the Duke of *Monmouth* Relieved the Count *de Lorge*, and Monſieur *Montal* the Chevalier *de Foureille*, who advanced ſomewhat farther, till within 10 or 15 Yards of the Ditch, which was dry, there being nothing between us and the Town, but this Ditch, and the Walls, which were very much Battered; In the mean time the Enemy omitted

omittednothing on their part, to defend themſelves; that night they Sprung five Mines very near us, yet not ſo near, as to do any execution, which we thought they would have followed with a Salley, but they did not; The Thurſday which was the 29, the Duke *de Feuillade*, and Monſieur *Vaubrun* came upon the Guard, but nothing paſt that night; on our ſide we were preparing for a general Aſſault on the Town, and the Beſieged began it ſeems to think on a Surrender, looking upon themſelves to be unable, after the loſs of all their Out-Works, and having no hopes of Relief, to hold out, accordingly on Friday Morning early they deſired a Parley, and in two hours time the conditions for Surrender were agreed, and immediately the Kings Regiment of Guards marched in, and took poſſeſſion of the *Bruſſels* Gate: The Articles were, That the Garriſon 5000 Foot and 1000 Horſe, ſhould March out with Bag and Baggage, Drums beating, Colours flying, *&c.* with two pieces of Cannon, and one Mortar piece, either to *Boiſteduc* or *Breda*, as they thought beſt. The Governor preſſed hard, to ſtay in the Town till Monday, but at length agreed, to march out the next day, the 31 inſtant.

THus we have ſeen an end of this Siege in three weeks time, to the great Surpriſe of all people, Who conſider the ſtrength of the place, and the great Garriſon that was in it, and eſpecially of thoſe who thought it impregnable, or at leaſt, that the taking of it would have coſt the King many Months, and greateſt part of his Army; Though certainly it may chiefly be attributed to the great Conduct and extraordinary Courage of the King, who hath himſelf during this Siege, performed all the parts of a General, with an unintermitted Induſtry and Vigilance, In this Siege we have had 2000 *killed, and as many wounded And the Enemy has loſt* 1000, *the* Italian *Regiment that was in the Town, being quite deſtroyed: and to do them right, they defended themſelves very ſtoutly, and perhaps might have made the Siege laſt longer, had they not put ſo much confidence in their Mines, on which account perhaps they uſed the leſs oppoſition, to hinder our approach at firſt.*

FINIS.